

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 4, beginning on line 11 to the following:

The sample signal S_{CTRL} causes the measurement signal FE to be sampled when the intensity of the reflected radiation is comparatively high and the measurement signal to be held when the intensity of the reflected radiation is low. The sample signal S_{CTRL} is derived from the information signal S_{INFO} with the aid of signal generation means 70. The signal generation means 70 are shown in greater detail in Figure 4. Said means include means 72 for measuring the time during which the measurement signal FE is held and means 73, 75 for causing the measurement signal FE to be sampled when the time exceeds a predetermined value.
